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IN THE CLAIMS

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Please amend claims 1, 5, 8, 12, 15 and 19 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-implemented method of creating a customer promotion response model for use in customer relationship marketing, comprising:

(a) generating, in a computer, an input data set for the response model, wherein the input data set is generated using an Analytic Data Set Template containing one or more Analytic Variables that include both primitives that are base variables and conditions that are predicates, aggregates or other functions, wherein the primitives and conditions determine how the Analytic Variables are derived from operational data to produce the input data set, and wherein the Analytic Variables are subdivided into independent variables and their related dependent variables;

(b) splitting, in the computer, the input data set into a test sample and a validation sample;

(c) identifying, in the computer, the independent variables and their related dependent variables using the test sample;

(d) identifying, in the computer, a Transformation Type for each of the identified independent variables and their related dependent variables;

(e) estimating, in the computer, a Coefficient for each of the identified independent variables and their related dependent variables;

(f) generating, in the computer, a Model Equation for each of the identified independent variables and their related dependent variables using the identified Transformation Type and estimated Coefficient;

(g) validating, in the computer, the generated Model Equation by applying it to the validation sample; and

(h) scoring, in the computer, customers retrieved from a database using the validated Model Equation as a customer promotion response model for use in customer relationship marketing.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the Transformation Type is a mathematical operation that identifies an association between the identified related independent and dependent variables.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the Coefficient is a relative measure of the identified related independent and dependent variables' contributions to a likelihood of response.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the Coefficient's sign indicates whether the independent variable is positively or negatively correlated with the dependent variable.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein the Model Equation is a mathematical representation of the association of the identified related independent and dependent variables that result in [[the]] a statistical best fit of known responders versus non-responders.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the validating step (g) further comprises applying the generated Model Equation to the validation sample in order to predict a likelihood of response as compared to an actual response in the validation sample.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1, wherein the scoring step (h) further comprises applying the validated Model Equation to the customers retrieved from the database in order to predict responses from the customers in a future promotional campaign.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-implemented system for creating a customer promotion response model for use in customer relationship marketing, comprising:

(a) a computer;

(b) ~~legie~~ a customer relationship marketing system, performed by the computer, for:

(1) generating an input data set for the response model, wherein the input data set is generated using an Analytic Data Set Template containing one or more Analytic Variables that include both primitives that are base variables and conditions that are predicates, aggregates or other functions, wherein the primitives and conditions determine how the Analytic Variables are derived from operational data to produce the input data set, and wherein the Analytic Variables are subdivided into independent variables and their related dependent variables;

(2) splitting the input data set into a test sample and a validation sample;

(3) identifying the independent variables and their related dependent variables using the test sample;

(4) identifying a Transformation Type for each of the identified independent variables and their related dependent variables;

(5) estimating a Coefficient for each of the identified independent variables and their related dependent variables;

(6) generating a Model Equation for each of the identified independent variables and their related dependent variables using the identified Transformation Type and estimated Coefficient;

(7) validating the generated Model Equation by applying it to the validation sample; and

(8) scoring customers retrieved from a database using the validated Model Equation as a customer promotion response model for use in customer relationship marketing.

9. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 8, wherein the Transformation Type is a mathematical operation that identifies an association between the identified related independent and dependent variables.

10. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 8, wherein the Coefficient is a relative measure of the identified related independent and dependent variables' contributions to a likelihood of response.

11. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 8, wherein the Coefficient's sign indicates whether the independent variable is positively or negatively correlated with the dependent variable.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 8, wherein the Model Equation is a mathematical representation of the association of the identified related independent and dependent variables that result in [[the]] a statistical best fit of known responders versus non-responders.

13. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 8, wherein the logic for validating (7) further comprises logic for applying the generated Model Equation to the validation sample in order to predict a likelihood of response as compared to an actual response in the validation sample.

14. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 8, wherein the logic for scoring (8) further comprises logic for applying the validated Model Equation to the customers retrieved from the database in order to predict responses from the customers in a future promotional campaign.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article of manufacture comprising a storage device embodying logic instructions that, when read and executed by a computer, result in the computer performing a method for creating a customer promotion response model for use in customer relationship marketing, comprising:

(a) generating, in a computer, an input data set for the response model, wherein the input data set is generated using an Analytic Data Set Template containing one or more Analytic Variables that include both primitives that are base variables and conditions that are predicates, aggregates or other functions, wherein the primitives and conditions determine how the Analytic Variables are derived from operational data to produce the input data set, and wherein the Analytic Variables are subdivided into independent variables and their related dependent variables;

(b) splitting, in the computer, the input data set into a test sample and a validation sample;

(c) identifying, in the computer, the independent variables and their related dependent variables using the test sample;

(d) identifying, in the computer, a Transformation Type for each of the identified independent variables and their related dependent variables;

(e) estimating, in the computer, a Coefficient for each of the identified independent variables and their related dependent variables;

(f) generating, in the computer, a Model Equation for each of the identified independent variables and their related dependent variables using the identified Transformation Type and estimated Coefficient;

(g) validating, in the computer, the generated Model Equation by applying it to the validation sample; and

(h) scoring, in the computer, customers retrieved from a database using the validated Model Equation as a customer promotion response model for use in customer relationship marketing.

16. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein the Transformation Type is a mathematical operation that identifies an association between the identified related independent and dependent variables.

17. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein the Coefficient is a relative measure of the identified related independent and dependent variables' contributions to a likelihood of response.

18. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein the Coefficient's sign indicates whether the independent variable is positively or negatively correlated with the dependent variable.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein the Model Equation is a mathematical representation of the association of the identified related independent and dependent variables that result in [[the]] a statistical best fit of known responders versus non-responders.

20. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein the validating step (g) further comprises applying the generated Model Equation to the validation sample in order to predict a likelihood of response as compared to an actual response in the validation sample.

21. (ORIGINAL) The article of manufacture of claim 15, wherein the scoring step (h) further comprises applying the validated Model Equation to the customers retrieved from the database in order to predict responses from the customers in a future promotional campaign.